

"Here's to the man in the mask..."

"...and here's to the man who'd do it without a mask!"

GRAUSTARK

#230

1970E, 1970J, 1970M, 1970W, 1970BB, 1970BN, 1970BQ

30 January 1971

1970W

"Spring 1907"

RUSSIAN OFFENSIVE IN NORTH!

Owing to the confusion caused by my illness, Ron Salcedo's moves were not found when GRAUSTARK #229 went to press, though they arrived before the deadline. Actual moves for this season are:

ENGLAND (Walker): F Ska-North Sea; F Edi S F Ska-North Sea; A Norway holds.

FRANCE (Vest): F Wal-Liv; A Bel-Hol; A Mun-Kio; A Ruh S A Mun-Kio; A Bur-Mun; F Mid-Spa(s.c.); F Wes-Lyo; F North Africa-Wes.

GERMANY (McCallum): F North Sea-Hol; F Hel S F North Sea-Hol.

ITALY (Ward): A Smy-Ank; F Con S A Smy-Ank; F Bul(s.c.)-Aog; F Tun S F Tyr; F Ion & F Tyr S F Tun; A Bud-Rum; A Ser-Tri; A Boh S RUSSIAN A War-Sil; A Mar holds; A Tyr-Mun.

RUSSIA (Salcedo): A Rum-Ukr; A Sov-Rum; A War-Sil; A Ber-Kio; A Pru-Bor; A St.P-Norway; F Swo S A St.P-Norway.

TURKEY (Grayson): A Ank holds.

Underlined moves are not possible.

Retreats are:

ENGLAND: A Norway-Fin.

TURKEY: A Ank-Arm.

The deadline for "Fall 1907" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971.

1970M

"Winter 1907"

Following "Fall 1907" moves, Turkey retreats F Tun-Tyr, F Ion-Adr, F Sov-Arm. All players were informed of these retreats.

ENGLAND (Locke): Removes A Cly.

FRANCE (Strayer): Builds F Bro, F Mar, A Par.

GERMANY (Barents): Removes A Ruh.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (H. Anderson): Removes A Boh; out of game.

(continued in next column)

1970BN

"Spring 1901"

FRANCE CHALLENGES ENGLISH NAVAL SUPREMACY

For the reason for this re-adjudication, see the opposite column. Ron Salcedo had submitted a revision of his moves before the deadline.

ENGLAND (Aita): F Lon-Eng; F Edi-North Sea; A Liv-Yor.

FRANCE (Robert Miller): A Mar-Spa; A Par-Bur; F Bro-Eng.

GERMANY (Salcedo): A Ber-Kio; F Kio-Don; A Mun-Sil.

ITALY (Model): A Von-Pio; A Rom-Von; F Nap-Ion.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Grayson): A Vio-Bud; A Bud-Ser; F Tri-Alb.

RUSSIA (Buchanan): F St.P(s.c.)-Bot; A War-Sil; A Mos-Ukr; F Sov-Bla.

TURKEY (Barents): A Con-Bul; F Ank-Con; A Smy-Arm.

Underlined moves are not possible. The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971.

1970BB

"Winter 1902"

FRENCH DOMINATE THE SEAS

ENGLAND (Lasky): Removes F North Sea, F Ska.

FRANCE (Mischol): Builds F Mar.

GERMANY (Birsan): Builds A Min.

RUSSIA (Shuldiner): Builds A Mos.

TURKEY (Borman): Removes F Eas.

The deadline for "Spring 1903" moves is 6 PM, MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 1971.

RUSSIA (Loinhos): Builds A War.

TURKEY (Burloy): Builds F Con.

The deadline for "Spring 1908" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971. See p. 10 for press releases.

2

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Bill Linden has asked what happened to my prediction of several months ago that Pnom Penh would fall before the end of the year, resulting in stepped-up American bombings in Cambodia. Well, the United States has not waited for the fall of Pnom Penh to increase bombings. As I write, the level of bombings has increased not only in Cambodia but also in Laos and Vietnam. That includes "both" Vietnams, out of deference to the quaint Pentagon superstition that two countries bear that name. For the Air Force has developed the peculiar doctrine that tracking a US plane by radar is a hostile action which must be answered from the air with bombs.

As for Cambodia, the last road connecting Pnom Penh with the sea is only intermittently open now, and most of the rest of the country is in the hands of whomever is the "enemy" there. I do not anticipate that my prediction will be off by much time.

Unlike Linden, or any other prophet who pretends to information that comes from the stars or beyond them, the prophecies made in GRAUSTARK are just reasonable inferences from the observed behavior of things, based like weather reports and stock analyses on certain general principles that seem to govern the phenomena in question.

*

Last issue I speculated that, to judge from the civic politics of our nation's capital, the Democratic and Republican Parties may be "reverting to type" after years of virtual indistinguishability. It seems they reverted a lot further back than I had suspected. The Democratic majority in the Senate recently elected a new whip - assistant majority leader, that is. The incumbent was Edward Kennedy. He was defeated by Robert Byrd of West Virginia, a member of the Ku Klux Klan. This certainly reverts to type for the Democrats; other prominent Democrats with KKK backgrounds include Chief Justice Edward White, Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo, Senator Hugo Black, and President Harry S. Truman!

*

News reports have it that the postal rate increase mentioned on p. 11 may go into effect in May. At present it will probably be no more than 8¢ per ounce. The new air mail rate - if a separate air mail rate is maintained, which may not happen - has not been announced yet.

*

John McCallum writes that GRAUSTARK #228 took a week to get from here to Alberta by air mail. In the same mail arrived an air letter that had taken 3 days from England. The letter in which McCallum informed me of these facts was sent by mistake to Los Angeles before arriving here.

And for this they want 8¢ an ounce?

*

McCallum also writes, anent the mis-drawn Union Jack mentioned in #225, "that it is not symmetric about either x or y axis. I don't know how often I have seen it in ads, theatrical backgrounds, etc., etc., upside down."

To which might be added that flying a flag upside down is a traditionally accepted signal of distress. Such a signal is fairly obvious for the U. S. flag, the British Red, White, or Blue Ensigns, and several other national flags. But how is distress indicated if you happen to be flying the Union Jack, the French tricolour, or any of several other national flags that look the same or nearly the same in either position? And such flags include those of many seafaring nations: all the Scandinavian countries, Japan, and Belgium. To these might be added Canada and Italy, since the device in the center of those flags is the only thing that makes orientation possible, and it is likely to be obscure at a distance.

1970E

3

"Spring 1909"

ENGLISH DRIVE OUT INVADERS

ENGLAND (Gletty): F Lon-Wal; A Liv S F Lon-Wal; F Norwegian Sea-Bar; F Norway S F Norwegian Sea-Bar; F St.P(s.c.) S GERMAN A Pru-Liv;
F Edi-Cly.

GERMANY (Tang): A Pru-Ber; F Kie S A Pru-Ber; A Pic-Bur; A Ruh S A Pic-Bur; F Eng holds.

ITALY (Becker): A Ven-Pie; F Aeg & A Bud hold; F Spa(s.c.)-Mid; F Wes S F Spa(s.o.)-Mid; F Lyo-Tyr; F Por-Spa(n.c.); A Bur-Pic; A Mun-Kie;
A Tyr-Mun; F Wal-Eng; A Boh-Sil; A Sil-Pru.

RUSSIA (Burley): A Liv-St.P; A Mos S A Liv-St.P; F Bar-Norwegian Sea; A
War-Liv; A Ukr-War; A Sev-Rum; A Arm-Bul; F Bla C A Arm-Bul; A Ber
S ITALIAN A Sil-Prü.

Underlined moves are not possible. The Russian F Bar and the German A Pru are dislodged and annihilated. England retreats F St.P(s.c.)-Fin by pre-arrangement, and Italy retreats F Wal-lri. In addition, the Italian army in Burgundy must retreat to Belgium, Paris, Gascony, or Marseilles. The direction of this retreat should be phoned immediately to the Gamesmaster, who will inform the other players. The deadline for "Fall 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971.

Jim Becker will be out of town for the next moves, and his "Fall 1909" moves will be submitted by Dick Miller, 350 Central Park West, New York, N. Y. 10025; 212-222-9739.

KIEL: When told that the end was in sight, the Kaiser replied with glazed eyes, "How are the Austrians holding out in Vienna?"

1970J

"Winter 1908"

ENGLAND (R. Miller): Builds A Edi. ITALY (Comber): Builds F Nap.

GERMANY (Burley): Removes F Ska. TURKEY (Aita): Removes F Eas.

The deadline for "Spring 1909" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971. George Grayson, playing Russia, announces that from 29 January to 7 February he will be at 5904 N. W. 67th Ave., Tamarack, Fla. 33313.

1970BQ - PRESS RELEASE

ANKARA: The Sultan of Fart appealed for peace in Eastern Europe when told the western half of the continent were on the verge of war.

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Since the list of subscribers on p. 12 went to press, the following additions and changes have been made in it:

- 237 - Tom Eller, 31 Queensberry St., Boston, Mass. 02215
- 239 - Ralph Graves, 905 Cottage St. S. W., Vienna, Va. 22180
- 239 - Richard Wile, Apt. 1615, 155 W. 68th St., New York, N. Y. 10023
- 275 - Eugene Prosnitz, 200 Clinton St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 11201

Present stand-bys in GRAUSTARK games are:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1970E: 1. Herb Baronts | 1970W: Charles Johnson |
| 2. Rod Walker | 1970BB: none |
| 1970J: Herb Baronts | 1970BN: Sam Nierenberg |
| 1970M: Sam Nierenberg | 1970BQ: Hugh Anderson |

These players' addresses may be found in previous reports of these games.

EUROPE GOES TO WAR!
 SIX NEUTRAL NATIONS BRAVELY INVADED!

ENGLAND (Beshara): F Edi-Norwegian Sea; F Lon-North Sea; A Liv-Edi.

FRANCE (Tretick): A Par-Pic; F Bre-Mid; A Mar-Spa.

GERMANY (G. Jones): F Kie-Den; A Ber-Kie; A Mun-Ruh.

ITALY (Gletty): F Nap-Ion; A Rom-Ven; A Ven-Pie.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY (Mischel): A Bud-Ser; A Vie-Bud; F Tri-Alb.

RUSSIA (M. Childers): F St.P(s.c.)-Bot; A War-Liv; A Mos-Ukr; F Sev-Rus.

TURKEY (Vest): A Con-Bul; A Smy-Ank; F Ank-Con.

The deadline for "Fall 1901" moves is NOON, SATURDAY 13 FEBRUARY 1971.

1970M - LATE PRESS RELEASES

PALERMO REVISITED (13 Dec. 1907, via Paris): Returning to the site of the mysterious telegraph mechanism King Leroy the Boy, his curiosity still unsatisfied, meant to investigate matters further. This time Leroy was alone as nobody else cared to make the two trips to the top of Mt. Etna on two successive days.

Peering into the tunnel Leroy accidentally dropped his santon into the abyss causing a small landslide and causing the telegraph key to rattle away in frantic fashion. "What kinda jive you puttin' out?!" screamed Leroy into the blackness. The telegraph rattled a reply which Leroy, not knowing Morse code, interpreted as a smartass retort to his inquiry. "OK, you Mutha," shouted Leroy kicking rocks and dirt down the tunnel, "what you see is what you got! And what you see is the Black Plague!"

PARIS (30 Dec. 1907): Puzzlement showed on the countenance of His Really Black Majesty as he paced the palace ballroom floor (the ballroom for dancing was in some other part of the palace) trying to figure out who had sent him the note signed "L". Glancing blankly about him Leroy chanced to let his gaze fall upon a picture of a nude woman (and what also would you expect to find in a ballroom?). "I wonder..." grinned Leroy reflectively, "I wonder if this note be from Lady L."

BROOKLYN (1 Jan. 1908, URRP): A stock ticker in the office of the United Rabblo Rousing Press today began chattering in Morse code. The code was deciphered and found to be coming through a new wire attached to the ticker and running down into the basement, behind the still, and disappearing down a rathole behind the trays of psychedelic mushrooms. The despatch delivered on it follows.

KOARSAR, POLLUTIDAR: In a speech before the Representative Diet, His Inferial Majesty Honj the Horny, Emperor of Pollutidar, called for a declaration of war against "the Outer Crust vermin who have been keeping us awake with their noisy war." As the representatives of the human, semi-human, sub-human, non-human, and in-human races of the Inner Crust applauded his words, the Emperor accused the Outer Crusters of "making so much noise that we of Pollutidar cannot get any sleep. This is a particularly serious matter on the Inner Crust, since our Central Sun is always directly overhead, and we have no way of measuring time other than by number of sleeps."

The speech was seconded by Lord the Greasy One, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Food Procurement, and by Ag-Nu the Groccoy One, Chairman of the Committee on Preparedness for War and Dinner. It was decided to send a troop of cavalry under the command of Major Martin Ett, of the Mammoth Men. This troop is to go through a little-known passage between the Inner and Outer Crusts, emerge from a cave at Cro-Magnon, and march on Paris, which is currently the noisiest of the Outer Crust capitals. As a diversion, an attempt was made to contact the variety of Outer Crusters known as "Italians" by extending a line of communication into their country and inviting their leaders to an old-fashioned Pollutidarcan come-as-you-are banquet.

THE DIPLOMATIC POUCH

This long overdue letter column prints letters as they work their way to the top in the file folder where I keep them. Dates of the letters are given where known. Comments of the Gamesmaster are indicated ((this way)).

MIKE CHILDERS (10 Dec. 1970): In case anyone asks Hostigos should be out by the first and Laputa sometime after that. I shall probably publish one more issue of Long-kong, then refund whatever subscription money that is left. I have found that I am sorely pressed for time these days.

Say have you and Rod ((Walker)) called a truce? The last issue of CRAUSTARK was the first "harsh words" I have seen about him from you in some time now.

I have been thoroughly enjoying the Xerox covers you have been doing for GRAUSTARK lately.

((Thanks. However, the one which will appear on #231 may be the last. Prices have risen lately, and it now costs me 24 per copy to get them done.))

STEVE CAIRNS (11 Dec. 1970): I saw the last issue of Glory Road today, and in it Larry St. Cyr commented that the Diplomacy World seems to be falling apart. I am inclined to agree with him. Lonely Mountain is disappearing along with its editors and I haven't heard from Jeff Koy in a long time.

((Jeff Koy is still in the Diplomacy publishing business. I wouldn't know about St. Cyr, as I've never seen a copy of Glory Road. I have heard second-hand that St. Cyr, who apparently believes he must think like a military academy because he's named like one, is most upset by my anti-war views and won't take GRAUSTARK in trade.))

It seems to me that maybe a lot of the early figures of postal Dippy are beginning to go elsewhere, and their magazines are going with them. I guess the point that I am working up to is that I am seriously interested in starting a new 'zine.

How does one go about getting started? What equipment does one need? What I need is general information, and some exposure once the 'zine gets organized.

Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated. If I can turn out something that runs for half as long as GRAUSTARK already has, I would consider the venture a success.

((Well, that will tie you up until 1975 already. Of the first importance is regular access to duplicating facilities, preferably a mimeograph. The best thing is to own a silkscreen mimeograph. CRAUSTARK is run off on a second-hand Gestetner 120 which we bought 9 years ago, and which has given us excellent service. You will not need an electric machine, as the press run of a Dippy 'zine is seldom large enough to justify the expense.

((Ditto machines are less expensive, but the reproduction is not as good, and it is a rare ditto that can give you 100 good copies. Furthermore, if you wish to print on both sides you'll have problems. The fluid flow should not be too heavy, and ideally you should leave the papers to dry overnight before you print the second side.

((If you use a machine where you work or study, keep in mind that such machines may cease to be available to you when you leave, or if a punctilious supervisor should object. Several defunct Diplomacy 'zines have owed their sudden deceases to such a circumstance. In an extreme case, Fred Lerner, one of the first postal Dippy fans, was confined to Ft. Dix for a weekend because he used an army mimeograph to run off 300 copies of my poem "The Screwing of Suzie Stranahan". Copies of this poem got to Vietnam anyhow, and I understand that Suzie has become the "Dirty Gertie of Bizerte" of the Vietnamese war. And, while we're on the topic, I would be grateful to any World War II vet who can send me a copy of "Gertie", "Glen Whorple" or "North Atlantic Squadron".

((Xerox is too expensive for home use, and if used elsewhere is subject to those same limitations.

((Other Gamesmasters are generally glad to publicize new magazines, as most of them have more requests for game entries than they can fill. When you get started, send your colleagues copies of #1, with a trade offer on an all-for-all basis and information about entry fees and subscription rates.

((Paper costs can be cut by inquiring around. Science-fiction fans in your area will generally know where the best prices can be obtained, and also may be helpful in printing advice, since amateur publication of this sort has been a part of science-fiction fandom for about 35 years. For example, in Brooklyn I can get paper at 90¢ a ream. Mimeograph paper should be of 20-lb weight, and extremely absorbent. You should use the heaviest and slickest ditto paper available. Different mimeograph machines use different inks, and you should know exactly what your machine will take before buying. The same precautions should be observed in buying stencils. With care, Dick stencils can be used on Gestetner or Rex machines, but the opposite is not true. Stencils can be picked up for as little as 75¢ a quire if you know where to look. Often it is possible to save money by making moonlight requisitions of ink, paper, and stencils from school or office supplies.

((Anyone wishing further information on Steve's publishing venture should write him at Nichols 301, 4 Amos St., Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Good luck!))

MIKE MONAHAN (26 Oct. 1970): About the Edmund Burke Society, the local paper is not worth the paper it is printed on. (Can you imagine a paper that has not criticised the government, in any way, for at least 14 years. NOBODY is perfect.) But I asked my father, who is also a university professor (this is a virtue?) ((No, but it's a fairly acceptable vice.)) about this society. And he says that it is a group of mainly University of Toronto students that, mainly, is involved in breaking up "left-wing" demonstrations. It is, of course, right-wing. But I can't be sure whether this is really all about the group, since I have never heard of them myself. Since the CBC is pretty good about this sort of thing I must conclude that this group is not very important. Certainly it does not have the support of many Canadians. (As a measure of the activity of lunatic-fringe groups: The CBC has carried reports of Canada's only hate literature producer. You know, along the lines of 'Pierre Trudeau and the Commie plot'. But this was more of a curiosity, than a serious political force.) Our only other lunatic fringe is the FLQ and they have given us our 2nd political murder in 103 years. Only the 2nd is not bad.

Are you the source of the URRP? ((Yes; all press releases headed "United Rabbie Rousing Press" are mine, if I remember to get it in. I didn't for the release that appears at the bottom of p. 10.))

(6 Nov. 1970): About the ethnic groups in Canada: It is true that there are a large number. About 1,400,000 people are from continental Europe. This is from a population of about 21,000,000. While it is true that many of these are anti-Communist it must be said that this does not play a large part of our society. The opposition to letting draft-dodgers into Canada has been on the basis that we should not take people who disobeyed the laws of their countries and who were afraid to fight for their country. I have never heard anyone who has been so stupid to say that we should force people to fight against the "Sinister Monolithic International Communistic Conspiracy". While some may feel that way, they expressed their opinion in terms of permitting law-breakers into the country.

((Our founding fathers didn't feel that way. The first settlers of Georgia were chosen by the finest judges of England. According to what I've heard, they included the founder of Lyndon Johnson's family.))

I must comment on the views expressed by Mr. ((Derek)) Nelson sur la province de Quebec. He fails to realise that Quebec "is not a province like the others". (Robert Bourassa, premier of Quebec) I feel that the present violence in Quebec is based on the long-standing injustice that has existed in Canada. I do not feel that this violence is necessary because it should be possible to change the basic injustice. If Mr. Nelson gets some satisfaction that the Maritimes, where I live, are the poorest and have not, yet, resorted to violence I hope that he is aware of just how much behind the times this area is. It is interesting to note that just this month 2 Maritime governments have been toppled. Both of these were over 10 years old and one had 41/46 ((?)) seats before its fall. So even in this area the times are changing - and how long does Mr. Nelson expect the Roberts government to last?

((I have the feeling that if the Quebec radicals can pull off their wildest dreams and create an independent Quebec republic, they will be in for a big surprise after the

first elections. The majorities will belong to the peasants off in the boonlocks, who were old Duplessis' Silent Majority. They will very likely vote into power a right-wing, clericalist, semi-fascist government like Spain's or Portugal's. Its first act will be to establish the Church of Rome; it will then send the FLQ to dig ditches in Ungava.))

Also the problem in Northern Ireland is that the Protestant majority keeps the Catholic minority in an inferior position. ((This assumes that the Protestants actually form a majority in Northern Ireland, the which I doubt.)) While it must be said that those problems are based on religious hatred the actual expression of this hatred comes out in all forms of society. For example, the Unionist government has governed Northern Ireland for 50 years. This party is almost 100% Protestant. I say almost because when I was in Ireland in 1968 there was a great fight going on in the Unionist Party. You see, one (1) Catholic wished to join. In all fairness I must admit that I speak from a biased position - as a Catholic of Irish descent I have very little sympathy for the absurd splitting-up of Ireland. One prediction - Ireland will be united in the next 20 years. ((And then Joyce, Syngé, O'Sasey, and Tracy can be banned in Belfast as they are in Dublin.))

Speaking of predictions, I'm sorry to see that the liberal vote in New York was split and that James Buckley was elected. I think that the fact that he WAS elected is an argument against "unfair" coverage of rumors. While Buckley may not have seemed to be very important he was, after all, the choice of the people. I can't see how anyone can say that because, in the opinion of the person speaking, someone does not represent a big section of the public he should not be given press coverage.

((The press coverage and the local officials of the Republican Party made Buckley a "third major candidate". This caused me to underestimate him in my election predictions. If he had been what he appeared to be, the candidate of the Conservative Party, he would have done no better than the Conservative candidate for Governor. But his tacit support by Nixon and Rockefeller, and his overt support by Agnew, made him in effect the Republican candidate. This got him a lot of "gut Republican" votes that go to anyone on that label without regard to other considerations. But the press is more than a passive reporter on campaigns - as far as defining terms go, the press is the campaign. The 1966 New York Daily News poll showed the conservative Democrat Frank O'Connor leading Nelson Rockefeller. This caused a number of liberal and reform Democrats to switch their votes from Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Liberal candidate, to Rockefeller just to keep O'Connor out of office - and Rockefeller won. Without that poll, Rockefeller would be another retired politician today.))

BOB STRAYER (29 Oct. 1970): Astrology - I suppose there will always be a market for anything which employs the psychology of self-interest. As to whether this constitutes a con game or not I don't know, but I can see how you could consider astrology to be a con game when one looks at it in its entirety. I like to think of it as a fun thing and nothing more. Nuf sed.

((About a year ago I gave a talk to the Brooklyn College Physics Society entitled "The Great Astrology Hoax". The talk was well-publicized, and we got an audience of about 40 people, most of them from outside the sciences. I gave a resume of the history of astrology from Babylonian times, the intellectual assumptions that underlie it, and a number of predictions that resoundingly failed to come off, and studies that checked up on predictions statistically. When the meeting was thrown open to questions, I expected to hear rebuttals from the audience. Instead, I heard several stories about friends who had taken astrological predictions seriously, and come to grief thereby. Apparently the current astrology fad is just another manifestation of the search for "certainty" amidst the unsettled times we live in, and not taken seriously by anyone who isn't making a living off it.

((Incidentally, an astrology monthly published by the English "witch" Sybil Looko has just folded, owing to unforeseen circumstances.))

BOB WARD (Nov. 1970): You really missed on Buckley and Turney. Turney incidentally was obvious here for the last week. Most of the cast missed it because they overrate the ticket pull. California traditionally has a lot of ticket splitting, and has no party column, all offices are listed by office so it is no harder to split votes than to cast a straight ballot.

((You said it. In 1948, Nixon was nominated for Congress by the Democrats as well as by the Republicans.))

I don't know whether it made the papers back there but we had a strong (about 150 men) contingent of National Guardsmen on office holder and candidate security out here, including of course me. Reports at the outset were a lot more threatening than the actuality turned out being but the response was, for a guard operation, well organized. We had full riot control equipment...

Our small local army command is also on alert, to repel the Indians who seized the land in Davis ((at the state agricultural college)). Both sides are staring at each other now, as at Alcatraz. A lot of military action for such a small civilian community.

((Oh, I don't know. Kent, Ohio, is even smaller.))

((Later): Things have settled down quite a bit. I am off active duty again, back to what passes for normalcy in the job...We have been having the Indian occupation of the land near Davis, which is about 20 miles away but it appears that this is being left alone until a court hearing scheduled for January. Given the judicial history of handling Indian treaties they will lose. Since Davis does not have the same easily controlled access as Alcatraz they will be easily expelled. Some of the same Indians are involved, and one of them says there was one attempted landing by the Coast Guard at Alcatraz which they repulsed by bow and arrow...If California is keeping to its role of forerunner of national trends it looks like a long hard decade.

DEREK NELSON (4 Nov. 1970): Congratulations on your new Federal senator - James Buckley. And congratulations too on having a Republican governor, and a Republican state legislature. And my personal congrats to you for helping Nixon gain control of the U. S. Senate.

I told you the real majority voted in November.

Javits and Buckley should make a good team on the Hill. ((That is, if they ever speak to each other.)) (Goodell, like Diefenbaker in 1962 is the "exception that proves the rule" when it comes to party loyalty, especially when the alternative is as good as Buckley - who tops his brother by a mile.)

Incidentally, be sure to report that the Massachusetts referendum on the war gave support to Nixon rather than Kennedy. I'm sure you will.

((It did nothing of the sort, but I don't for a moment imagine that that will stop you. The referendum repudiated both the Nixon position that "If we don't stop it with victory it will start all over again in a few years" and the Kennedy family position that "We will stay here until we win". In fact, 83.3% voted for an American withdrawal from Vietnam. (New York Post, 2 Dec. 1970) That's a typical Nixon "majority".))

MICHAEL GUTIERREZ (undated): In #227 you stated you applauded Yukio Mishima's action of suicide. I wholeheartedly disagree with you in applauding such a thing as suicide since it is a wasteful act.

((The thing to do with waste products is to waste them. In view of his deep love for war and the militarization of life, this is how I regard Hiraoka or Mishima or whatever his name really was. Personally, I would prefer to have seen him locked up in a hospital where his delusions could have been cured, but if he preferred to commit suicide rather than go on living in a loss warlike world, I won't object. I could only wish that some Americans who imitate him in his love for that organized murder called "war", would imitate him in this also.))

KEN SCHER (30 Nov. 1970): I think that you are unfair to Johnson in "What is Liberalism?" in GRAUSTARK #225. Ignoring his later performance while president, you have taken a number of quotes from his early career. ((He was either Senate Majority Leader or President at the time of 3 of those 4 quotes.)) I think the point is not that he was pro "states rights" and anti-integration before he became president, but that he sponsored more civil rights bills (and what's more important, unlike Kennedy, got them passed), than possibly any president in history.

((Good. Now what do we have to do to get them enforced??))

If Paul A. Samuelson (p. 10) thinks that Japan has no armed forces (including armies) he is either a total ass or is too ignorant to be appearing in print - call them "Self Defense Forces", Japan is still stronger militarily now than she was during WW2, and as US military commitments to Japan lapse (with no strong desire on the part of the US to renew them) she is getting both relatively and actually stronger still.

((Is that what Mishima was upset about?))

HISTORY OF THE FOUR AND A HALF KINGDOMS - II

II. The Temporary Roman Empire

During their consulship in 69 BC, Pompey the Pompeus and Crassus the Crass embarked on a massive reorganization of the Roman army. During the recent suppression of the Spartacist revolt the legions had shown themselves to be at a low efficiency, and before troops could be sent to fight Mithradates the consuls had to tighten up discipline.

In the process they discovered a large number of misfits, malcontents, cowards, imbeciles, and barracks lawyers who could not safely be sent either east to fight Mithradates or returned to civil society. So they organized all these into the XIII Legion, put them under the command of a well-connected but incompetent young nobleman named Julius Foelus, and sent them off into the Balkan Massif where, they hoped, he would lose the whole lot of them.

Foelus led his men through Impossible Pass (known to the Romans as the Via Hemia) and occupied Skandalutz, which had previously been protected by the impregnable mountains and the quite pregnable priestesses of the Mother Goddess. Earlier raiders had had their martial ardor reduced by the priestesses' highly unorthodox means of defending their country, but Foelus' army included enough men raised in the Greco-Roman tradition to make them immune to the wiles of Mother Goddess worshippers. As part of the Skandalic surrender terms Foelus agreed to have his most troublesome officer, Poronnius Mutinus, chosen as King of Skandalutz.

Thus was founded the Roman Empire in the Balkan Massif, under the proconsulship of Foelus. (This office was bestowed on him for life by the Senate, on provision that he never return to Rome.) Administratively the Romans were successively a part of the provinces of Pannonia, Illyricum, Noricum, Rhaetia, Germania Inferiorissima, and once, through a clerical error in the reign of Elagabalus, Lusitania.

The event from which the Temporary Roman Empire (properly, "Empire of the Temporary Rome") took its name was the deposition and flight of Nero in 68 AD. After murdering his double, a slave named Falgarius, Nero fled to the Balkan Massif and announced to its Roman inhabitants that he would live low there until he was called back. The anniversary of his arrival, the Kalends of July, is still kept as a holiday. The chief town, which until then had been called Julia Augusta Septembra after Foelus' sister, wife, and daughter, was renamed "Roma Temporaria".

Nero married Foelus' heiress and settled down to await the call to return, insisting that Roma Temporaria was the Empire's capital only until his re-establishment in Rome could take place. This fiction is still maintained by his successors, who refuse to recognize the barbarian occupation of the Roman Empire's other provinces.

From time to time a Roman Emperor bestirred himself to suppress the "usurping" line of Emperors descended from Nero in Roma Temporaria. However, other matters always intervened. Perhaps the nearest escape took place in the reign of Severus Vortebra, who was all set to march on the Balkan Massif with six legions when the Praetorian Guard went on strike demanding that Christian virgins be thrown to them instead of to the lions. The strike was called off when the Emperor demonstrated to the Guard that, owing to the spread of the Paulician Heresy, there were no Christian virgins. However, the respite had been gained, and the rival emperor at Roma Temporaria, Sextus Ambisoxtrus, was saved.

(In his Anecdota, Procopius claims that Sextus Ambisoxtrus was giving considerable financial support to both the Paulician Heresy and the Roman Servicemen's Union.)

The fastnesses of the Balkan Massif saved Roma Temporaria from being overrun by the barbarians, though they lost some of their lands to the ancestors of the Massif's other three modern nations. The fact that the barbarians were almost all Christian has caused the Temporary Roman Emperors to except Christians from their otherwise general toleration of all religions under their policy of Syncretic Polytheism. From time to time, Christians are still thrown to lions in the Circus Minimus. The High Priest of Jupiter is the principal religious figure of the Empire, which still uses the Roman calendar. (Today, for example, is XVI ante Kalendas Februarias MDCCLXIV AVC.

Governmentally the Temporary Roman Empire still holds to the institutions of the early Principate. There is an Emperor, a Senate, a couple of Legions, a Praetorian

Guard, and consequently frequent changes of Emperor through assassination, conspiracy, civil war, or orgies. The Temporary Roman Empire maintains no diplomatic relations with governments which it considers to be in illegal occupation of former Roman territory; its ambassadors to others of the Four And A Half Kingdoms are de jure (though not de facto) Legates to other Provinces of the Roman Empire. Imperial currency is in denarii and aestarii. Slavery is legal, but there are in point of fact no slaves in the country, since the Empire would have to engage in wars to get them, and to fight wars with other countries the Emperor would first have to admit that they exist.

The Temporary Roman Empire is for these reasons perhaps the most isolated of the Four And A Half Kingdoms. This accounts for the fact that Latin is still a living language there, though what they call "Latin" is in fact a rather archaic dialect of Rumanian with an influx of German words from the Grand Duchy of Wogastisburg-Schlampenbüttel.

Roma Temporalis is the capital and principal city of the Empire. The Temporary Imperial Palace, the Temporary Senate House, the Temporary Temple of Jupiter, and the Temporary Circus Maximus are all grouped in an imposing assembly of classical marble buildings around the Temporary Forum. In fact the Emperor spends most of his time in the upper-class suburb of Noreopolis, where his residence adjoins the Orgium.

Chief exports of the Temporary Roman Empire are antiques (made to order), Latin cribs keyed to every language of Europe, and filmed orgies. Chief imports are lions and Christians.

This is

O At
P Great
E Intervals
R This
A Appears
T To
I Inflation
O Optic
N Nerves

453

1970M - PRESS RELEASES

TYROLIA (SWP): The Kaiser today said no one would dare take Kiel as it is the worst Boergarden of them all. "I couldn't even give it away last year," he recalled.

CLYDE: To those who can, save yourselves!

LIVERPOOL: The English government respectfully asks the French tourists to leave on Russian ships. They speak English in Ireland, the United States, the colonies, Iceland isn't a bad place to live...If you will look on the upper left of your dippy board, you will see a thin rectangular English fleet...Long Live England!

ROME: F Nap & A Ron S ENGLISH removal. There, England, somebody supported you. And no doubt you will have the temerity to be ungrateful.

PALERMO (12 Dec. 1907): The yacht Ebony had tied up in Palermo harbor, and 25,000 French marines had TROMPED ashore to bolster the defences of the Papal States. King Leroy and Pope Desperatus, meanwhile, had made a hasty trek to Mt. Etna to investigate rumors of an underground telegraph connection. Sure enough, at the summit, there it was: a sending and receiving device with wires running down into a hole, tunnel, and apparently bottomless pit opening on the side of the mountain. Even as they gaped at it, and at each other, it began tapping out in Morse: "Cut out that damn noise stop." "Boy," said His Holiness, "there is sumthin' funny goin' on hyar." "Yo! mean," said King Leroy, "that diamonds is wuthless?"

PARIS (14 Dec. 1907, Butler Press): Even though King Leroy is gone, off making the world safe for autocracy, his admirers are still loyal. Received at the Louvre today was a note: "Come up and see me some time. L." Now, who....?

PARIS: Factories are booming this Winter turning out war materials faster than ever before. Soon the world will hear the clank, Clank, CLANK of brand new tanks; the stomp, Stomp, STOMP of heavy new boots; the earthshaking explosions of newer bigger shells. Kinda makes you wonder what the worms and all the other vermin living beneath the surface think about the war.

MT. LASSEN, CALIFORNIA (14 Dec. 1907): A prospector named Offin Fuller Schnapps came into town today with a story that made Sheriff "Bull" Schitz laugh uproariously - and lock him up. Schnapps allegedly saw seventy-three cave-men, mounted on "big shaggy elephants" march out of the Lassen crater. Their leader asked the prospector directions "to that bunch of noisy, inconsiderate Outer Crusters in Paris".

(later press releases appear on p. 4)

THE MINISTRY OF MISCELLANY

Now that the Post Office Department is giving way to a Postal Corporation, the predictions of a 12¢-per-ounce rate can be expected to come true. Subscriptions to GRAUSTARK will therefore be increased in price, depending upon what new rate actually is agreed on. These new rates become effective on the same date as the postal rate increase; readers are advised to subscribe now at the present rate of 10 issues for \$1.00.

New Postal Rate

8¢ per ounce

10¢ per ounce

12¢ per ounce

New Subscription Rate

8 issues for \$1.00

12 issues for \$2.00

10 issues for \$2.00

Back issues remain at 10¢ each or 15 for \$1.00. In the event of a postal strike all move deadlines are re-set for the third Saturday after the end of the strike.

*

"Very, very few people know or realize how closely linked American foreign policy... is linked to that of...Israel...The Israeli troops fought for America. American troops in Vietnam fight for Israel." - Rabbi Meir Kahane, president of the Jewish Defense League, testimony, House Un-American Activities Committee, 19 June 1968

Mi yode'a im lo hu?

*

Conservative insistence that the maintenance of the stability of existing society is absolutely more important than any other consideration has led conservatives into some interesting directions - which, to give them credit, has not caused them to flinch. Recently in National Review one of their theorists - Richard Weaver, I believe - defended the execution of Socrates on the grounds that a society has the right to protect itself against subversion.

In a statement quoted in GRAUSTARK #228, p. 8, William F. Buckley has invented "powers anterior to...the Constitution" which may be invoked at the whim of the government. But it has remained for Ernest van den Haag, who has previously defended school segregation in National Review's pages, to carry this argument so far as to defend an act which for two millennia has been regarded as the quintessence of a miscarriage of justice. In the New York Times of 21 January 1971 he writes:

"Pontius Pilatus, then, was in duty bound to sentence to death one he thought innocent if, on reasonable evidence, he thought that the maintenance of law and order required no less...The ship of state sails on, its ropes and pulleys groaning, but its crew safe. Justice to the individual gave way to law and order, the paramount need of society, which governments exist to satisfy."

This makes the conservative position crystal clear. It means that any government, anywhere, at any time, has the right to do anything whatsoever, as long as it remembers to invoke the justification of "law and order". It is unclear whether Buckley and van den Haag intend this to extend also to Communist governments, but they probably do. In a column on air hi-jacking Buckley has condemned it even when the hi-jacker is trying to get out of a Communist country. And certainly the USSR is in accordance with much conservative thought when it approves the death penalty for such acts - though the 10,000 New Yorkers who demonstrated in favor of air hi-jacking a month ago may differ with Buckley on this matter.

In the face of such statements as Buckley's and van den Haag's, the alleged conservative love for individual freedom ("Power to the Individual") is a hollow mockery. A conservative, it now appears, is a man whose tongue has a magnetic affinity for rectums.

*

GRAUSTARK, the oldest bulletin of postal Diplomacy, is published on alternate Saturdays by John Boardman, 234 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226. For subscription rates see above. A couple of stand-by positions in the new games 1970BN and 1970BQ are still available at \$5.00 each. This publication is not edited under the supervision of Bangs Leslie Tapscott, who is, like everyone else, a figment of George Berkeley's imagination.

As of last Wednesday, the following people are paid subscribers to GRAUSTARK. Subscriptions end with the indicated issue.

232 - George Heap	237 - Randy Bytwerk
Mike Lehtonen	Mike Gutierrez
233 - Howard Latin	238 - Earl Hodin
234 - Pat Casey	239 - Sam Ferris
Steven Langs	240 - Derek Nelson
Whitney Smith	241 - Harry Manogg
235 - Kenneth Scher	242 - Brenton Ver Ploeg
Alan Stephanides	Chris Wagner
236 - Ritchie Dean	243 - Terry Kuch
	257 - Robert Maloney

In addition, there are eight players who were already subscribers when their present games began. They are entitled to the indicated number of issues after those games end:

Edi Birsan - 17	Arthur Lasky - 8
Walter Buchanan - 8	Richard Miller - 10
George Grayson - 8	Jerry Model - 2
Jay Kimmel - 11	Stephen Tang - 8

*

Only active players will get this issue of GRAUSTARK immediately on its publication. Others will get #230, #231, and #232 mailed to them in one 3rd-class bundle on about 13 February. GRAUSTARK #231, which active players will also receive by 3rd-class mail, is an especially large issue containing numerous book reviews. The next moves will be published in #232 on 13 February.

*

Terry Kuch announces the birth to him and his wife of a son, Adam Karl Emil Kuch, in Washington D. C. on 30 December 1970.

*

An unusual sort of game party will take place at Central Church, Park Avenue at 64th Street, New York City, on Sunday 4 April 1971. It is called "worship through games", whatever that may mean; visitors are asked to "Discover strategies of winning and losing in a new perspective. Come and play and worship". It is not altogether certain what sort of games will be played; the curious should drop by at 7:30 PM and find out.

GRAUSTARK #230

John Boardman
234 East 19th Street
Brooklyn, N. Y. 11226
U. S. A.

F I R S T C L A S S M A I L

"No one, not even the most
malvolent democrat, has any idea
how much nullity and charlatanism
there is in Diplomacy." - Bismarck